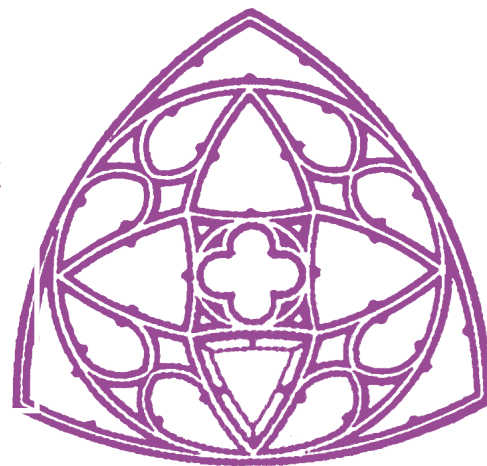


Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 18, 2025

St. James Synodal Catholic Community in Midtown

Small enough to know your name
Big enough to make a difference

Join us for Mass every Sunday at 10:00 am



St. James Catholic Church Mission

We, the people of the St. James community in faith, commit ourselves to building the Reign of God for all people, serving especially our neighbors in Midtown, Kansas City.

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, 'Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another.

As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.

This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

LOVE ONE ANOTHER



Sacramental Preparation Information

Sacramental Minister: Fr. Garry Richmeier
C.P.P.S: GarryCPPS@gmail.com

For information on preparation for the Sacraments of **Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation**, please contact Bonnie Haghirian, our Faith Formation Coordinator at FaithFormation@StJKC.org.

Rite of Christian Initiation in the Catholic Church (Adult Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation) will take place as needed. Contact Bonnie Haghirian at FaithFormation@StJKC.org.

Considering **Marriage**? Contact Phyllis McCarty, Marriage Coordinator at PhyllisAMcCarty@gmail.com at least 9 months prior to the wedding date.

Confessions arranged upon request. Email Fr. Don Farnan FrDon@StJKC.org or Fr. Garry Richmeier GarryCPPS@gmail.com.



Bulletin Deadline: 10 pm Mondays. Email items to Bulletin@StJKC.org.

For information to be posted on the St. James website, email your items to: website@StJKC.org.

ST. JAMES CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Don Farnan, FrDon@StJKC.org

Parish Office Phone: 816-561-8512

Office Hours: 10:00A-3:00P, Monday, Wednesday & Friday (Staffed by volunteers. Call for an appointment.)

Email: Parish@StJKC.org

Website: www.StJKC.org

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 30388, Kansas City, MO 64112

St James Facebook Public Page: Only St James admin team can post to- <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesmidtown>

PARISH NEEDS A PROJECTOR



We have many classes and meetings throughout the year, and having a projector that we can connect to our computer for presentations would be very helpful. If you have one laying

around or know of someone who may have a projector they can donate to the parish, please send information to Bulletin@StJKC.org. Thank you.

Do you have a question or concern? Send it to Bulletin@StJKC.org. St. James is always looking for ways to better minister to our faith community.



ST. JAMES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

5/18 First Communion preparation class in Marian Hall

5/20 Knitting and crocheting 6:30 pm in the Rectory

6/1 **Sunday Funday** after Mass for families

6/1 One Baptism celebrated at Mass

6/8 Immigrant Rapid Response Presentation after Mass

6/8 First Communion class and banner making

6/15 Celebration of First Reconciliation after Mass

6/15 First Communion Class (Change of date)

6/15 Brief practice and review for First Communion

6/22 First Communion Sunday, reception following Mass

8/17 Sign-ups for family-based "Seeking God" program

9/14 First session for "Seeking God" families

ST. JAMES IS LOOKING FOR A FULL-TIME SYNODAL PARISH DIRECTOR

St. James is a parish with a rich history of living the Catholic Social Teachings at the corner of 39th and Troost in Kansas City, MO. We have a very active community comprising approximately 200 families spread over 72 zip codes in the metro area. Our members represent all ages, ethnicities and backgrounds, and many members have years of experience volunteering or working for the Catholic Church.

St. James is looking for a leader to take us into the next phase of our parish life. This is a bold move since no Catholic Church in our diocese uses this leadership model. We want to make Pope Francis' call to be a **"Synodal Church"** a reality at St. James. He called the way of synodality **"what God expects of the church in the third millennium,"** stressing that **"the synodal process should be not an occasional experience, but one of structural change, 'where all can feel at home and participate.'"**

A qualified person must be Catholic and able to:

1. Be passionate about leading the parish from a lay-led parish to a community-led, synodal parish.
2. Identify gifts in each parishioner and invite them to use their gifts to fulfill the parish mission.
3. Engage all parishioners in the decision-making process on major parish topics.
4. Provide training and support to parishioners at all levels of the parish ministry.
5. Represent the interest of the parish to the diocese and broader community.

For more information or a complete job description, contact Bill Cordaro at bulletin@StJKC.org or call the parish at 816-561-8512.

WAKE UP AND SMELL THE ROLLS!



The cinnamon roll extravaganza is back. Pre-order is a must! Last date to order is Sunday June 1. A pan of rolls is \$10 and they will be delivered at Mass on June 8th.

If you would like to volunteer, to make the rolls or help sell them, sign up is after Mass until June 1st. This is the last fundraiser of the 2024-2025 fiscal year. **Thanks for your continued support.**

FAITH FORMATION

Sunday, June 8, following our Mass, Trinidad Raj Molina will share how he and others provide immigrants with rapid response assistance, assisting immigrants who are new arrivals to the KC area. Trinidad is from AIRR, **Advocates for Immigrant Rights and Reconciliation**, and has partnered with KC Welcome Alliance over the last few years. Come and hear what we can do to help our neighbors.

Fall Field Trips

Field trips are in the works for **The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception** and the **United Methodist Church of the Resurrection** in September and/or October. More information to follow.

Sacramental Programs: If you or your children are seeking Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, or Confirmation, contact Bonnie Haghirian at FaithFormation@StJKC.org.

NEW PARISHIONERS

All are welcome at St. James. We are an inclusive community of faith following the gospel of Jesus who never excluded anyone and who lived justly. If you want to learn more about St. James Community, please get in touch with staff (ParishStaff@StJKC.org) or visit our website at www.StJKC.org to complete a registration form.

We are excited to have you as part of our faith journey!

Definition of a rich person:
Someone who knows
they have enough.

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER



Ross Beaudoin, Paul DeMerchant, Michael Heringer, Theresa Maly, Caroline Martin, Amie Miller, Nancy Moylan, Bill Moylan, Denise Simeone, Eric Sitterley, Sean Shaughnessy, Steve Wallace

If you or someone you know needs prayers, please send their names to Bulletin@StJKC.org.

SUNDAY FUNDAY—JUNE 1

Sunday Funday is coming to St. James on Sunday, June 1, after Mass. **All families with children are invited to this first ever Sunday Funday!** Fr. Garry will be the grill master serving up hotdogs!



(veggie version available). We'll have chips and snacks and drinks. **Join the fun with yard games, prizes and bubbles.**

From little ones through teens, all are invited to celebrate our growing numbers of young families! Bring a blanket to sit upon and lawn chairs. **RSVP to Bonnie at FaithFormation@stjkc.org.**

READINGS FOR MAY 25, 2025

FIRST READING — Acts 15:1-2, 22-29: In response to controversies over whether Gentile believers must follow Jewish circumcision and other Mosaic practices for salvation, the early church leaders, guided by the Holy Spirit, agreed that faith in Christ required only a few essential abstentions—avoiding idol-sacrificed meat, blood, meat from strangled animals, and unlawful marriage—to sustain unity and freedom in the gospel. **Reflection Question:** How might we discern between cultural traditions that enrich our faith and legalistic practices that might become burdensome, and in what ways can we embrace the freedom of grace in our daily lives?

SECOND READING — Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23: In a transcendent vision, an angel leads the speaker to behold a magnificent, radiant heavenly Jerusalem—encircled by a massive wall with twelve gates bearing the names of Israel's tribes and a foundation inscribed with the apostles' names—where God's glory and the Lamb's light alone serve as the eternal temple and source of illumination.

Reflection Question: How does the vision of a heavenly city, sustained solely by divine radiance without the need for a traditional temple, inspire you to consider where and how you encounter the presence of God in your own life?

GOSPEL — John 14:23-29: In a transcendent vision, an angel leads the speaker to behold a magnificent, radiant heavenly Jerusalem—encircled by a massive wall with twelve gates bearing the names of Israel's tribes and a foundation inscribed with the apostles' names—where God's glory and the Lamb's light alone serve as the eternal temple and source of illumination.

Reflection Question: How does the vision of a heavenly city, sustained solely by divine radiance without the need for a traditional temple, inspire you to consider where and how you encounter the presence of God in your own life?

"Love, exciting and new...love, life's sweetest reward"—remember that little jingle from the Love Boat tv show? Although not traveling on the Love Boat, Paul and Barnabas sailed from place to place spreading the Good News of the Gospel—sharing

God's love—God's sweet reward. Jesus' new commandment was to love one another as he loved us. Paul and Barnabas took his word to heart and risked life and limb to fulfill our Lord's command.

Should we go and do likewise?

"Love, come aboard, we're expecting you".

COMMUNION TO THE HOME-BOUND

Contact the parish at *ParishStaff@StJKC.org* or call 816-561-8512 if you or someone you know is confined to their home and would like to receive communion. We have Eucharistic Ministers who visit the homebound.

How long have you been a member at St. James and why did you join the parish?

Submit your information and name to *Bulletin@StJKC.org*.

We will begin to collect and share the stories in future bulletins.

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church.

If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age), and
 2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
- If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, report the suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman at 816-213-6024 or *ombudsman@diocesekcsj.org*. The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816-714-2357 ext. 516 or *victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org* for more information.

Web Sites of Interest

Farnan Spirituality Center and Blog

<https://farnanspiritualitycenter.com/>

KC Contemporary Spirituality

<https://www.contemporaryspirituality.net/>

Catholic Daily Readings

<https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>

Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph

<https://kcsj catholic.org/>

The Catholic Key Magazine

<https://catholickey.org/>

Center for Action and Contemplation

<https://cac.org/>

Vatican

<https://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>

National Catholic Reporter

<https://www.ncronline.org/>

What does Pope Leo XIV say about a synodal church?

Pope Leo XIV envisions a synodal church as one that "walks" with its people—actively engaging in dialogue, listening deeply, and moving together in pursuit of peace and charity. In his inaugural remarks, he affirmed that a synodal church is not merely a static institution but a vibrant, inclusive community that seeks to be close to those who suffer and builds bridges of unity and shared mission.

Question: How can our own communities emulate this vision of a synodal church by fostering dialogue and embracing everyone—especially those who are hurting?



ST. JAMES COMMUNITY GARDEN
WORK, EVERY SATURDAY
THROUGHOUT THE GROWING
SEASON, 10-NOON. PRODUCE IS

SHARED WITH OUR NEIGHBORS THROUGH THE
BISHOP SULLIVAN CENTER'S FOOD PANTRY AND ST.
JAMES BETWEEN THE CRACKS MINISTRY.